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THE SOCIETY OF DESIGNERS



DESIGN FOR WROUGHT-
IRON LAMP
BY GEO. C. HAITÉ
(Manufactured by the N. A. P. Window Co.)

SOME SIMPLE WROUGHT-IRON

THE almost diabolical cleverness of the modern ironworker has more than once made us shudder, and wonder at the frame of mind of the person who seems to consider it absolutely necessary to put a bit of everything he can do into everything he does, with the result of producing fantastic and elaborate pieces of work, covered with nests for gathering and holding dirt, and bristling with points for tearing clothes or putting eyes out. Even after considerable progress has been made along the flowery paths of the School of Design, and the worker or designer has got so far on the road to the goal of the latest ideas as to spell wrought w-r-o-t, and spend his energies in making objects which might have been very useful centuries ago, but which no one wants now, the result is not always full of delight to the eye. The first steps towards simplicity being, apparently, the elimination of everything beautiful, and the insistence, on the designer's part, on the user's forsaking the ways and habits of his childhood's days, and doing whatever the object used is designed to do in a method which, while it has the merit of being new and strange, and attract-

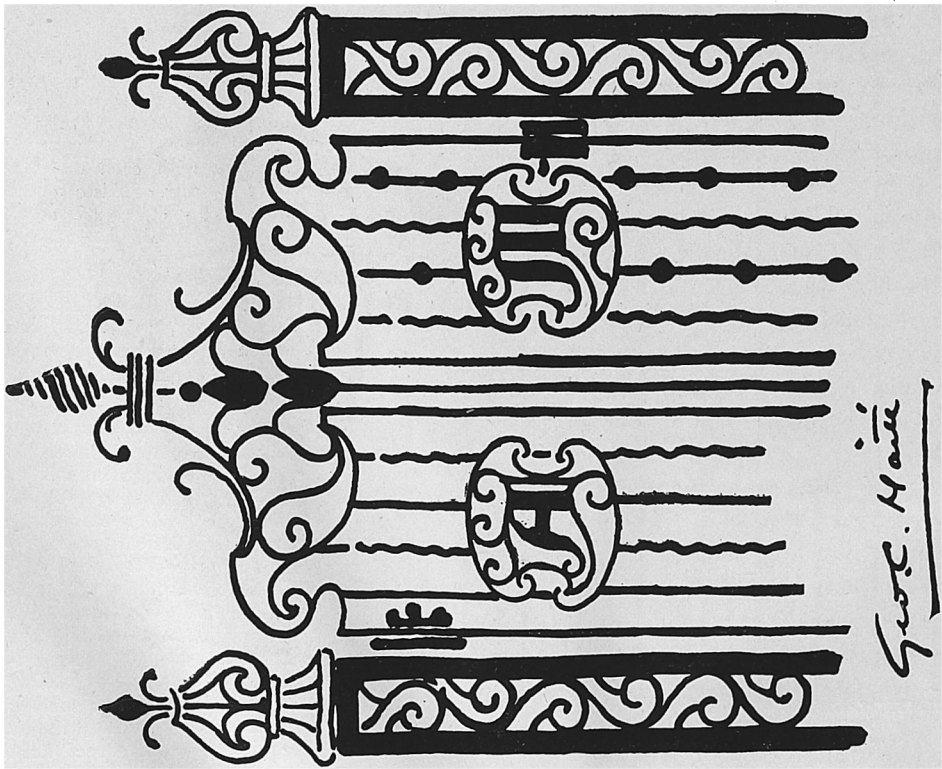
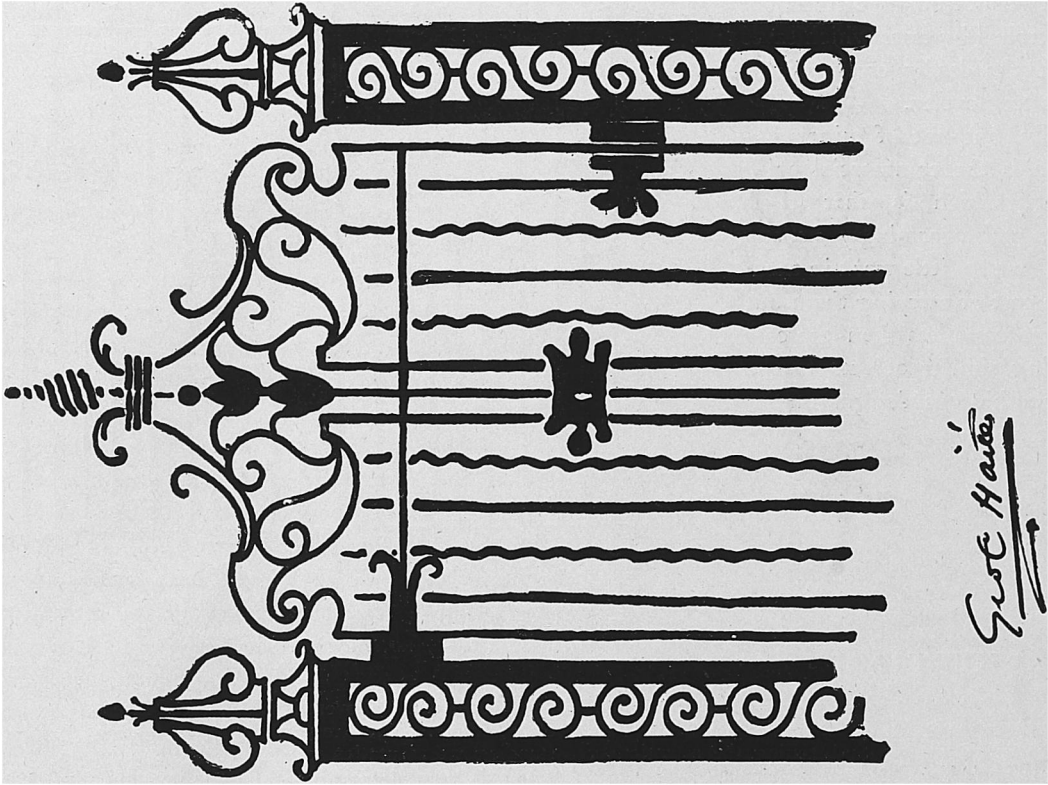
ing everyone's attention, may be distinctly uncomfortable to him, and calculated to disturb that calm harmony of mind we all look for in life's evening.

It is with somewhat of pleasure, therefore, that we, having suffered from these horrors and wishing to see pleasant objects around us, gates that will open and fire-irons that we can use with a moderate amount of safety to ourselves, turn to the charmingly simple and appropriate designs of Mr. Geo. C. Haité for the N. A. P. Co.'s ironwork, a few of which we reproduce here.

Our blocks are from Mr. Haité's designs, not from the ironwork itself, and illustrate those qualities in the designer which we must all have observed in the experienced hand—the desire, not to show all he knows, but merely to do something fit for the purpose, and the determination not to do more work himself, nor cause the craftsman to do more, than is absolutely necessary. In these designs every bit of metal used is part of the scheme, and reasonable in itself; all the shapes are determinate, and by their contrast simple and bold, rich and severe, an effect at once beautiful and reposeful has been obtained, inspired by an originality of thought which pro-



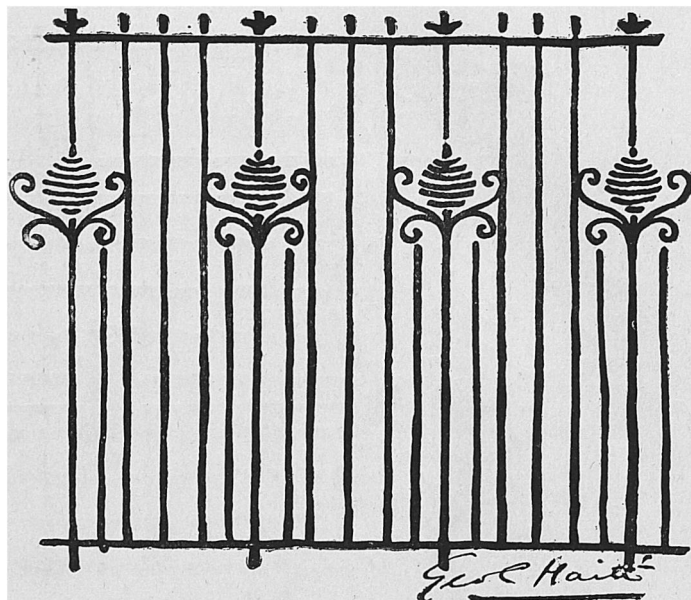
DESIGN FOR WROUGHT-
IRON HANGING LAMP
BY GEO. C. HAITÉ
(Manufactured by the N. A. P. Window Co.)



THE SOCIETY OF DESIGNERS

duces a result full of distinction, yet controlled by taste which saves it from the deadly errors of the seeker after novelty.

Finally, but not of minor importance, is the commercial point of view, which is that these effective and charmingly artistic designs have so little work in them that the cost of carrying them out is in most cases less than the cost of making similar objects to the vulgar and hideous designs one so often sees.



DESIGN FOR RAILINGS

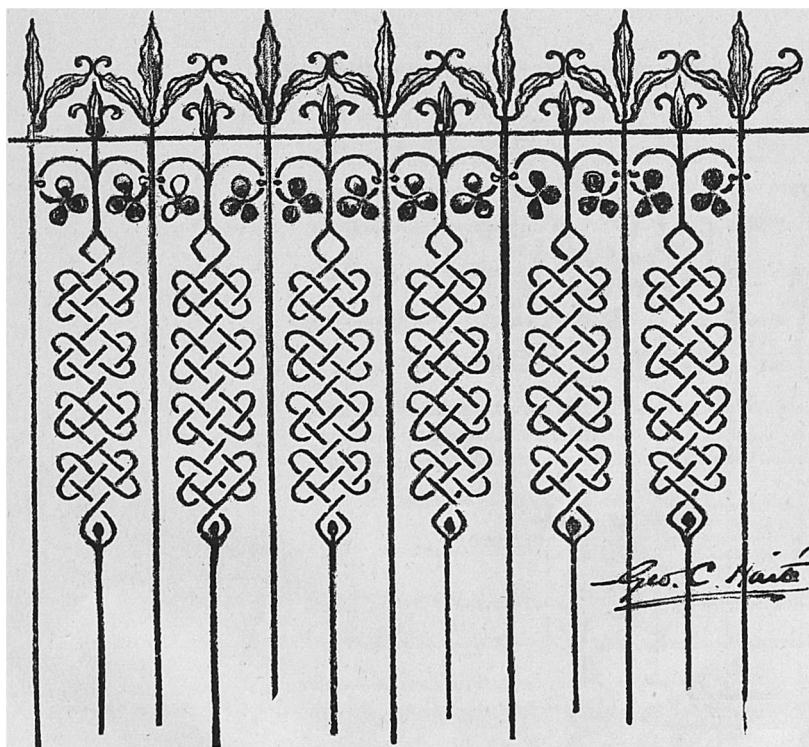
BY GEO. C. HAITE

(Manufactured by the N. A. P. Window Co.)

DESIGNERS' JOTTINGS

THE great paper-staining combine, rumours of the formation of which have been for months exciting the attention of designers, is now, I am given to understand, an accomplished fact. Practically all English manufacturers of decorative materials for wall coverings—I have heard of only two important firms who are standing out—have signed the

necessary deeds, and operations will commence on the 1st of September. The directors are men of the very highest standing and reputation for business acumen, and in their hands there is little doubt that all the capabilities of such a huge undertaking will be thoroughly tested and developed to the fullest extent. As to the plan of campaign I can only say definitely that the firms interested will in future confine themselves entirely to their respective styles, and will not endeavour by producing higher or lower qualities to compete or keep themselves in line with the other firms in the trust. In fact, they will be divided into what may be termed in sporting language 'first and second teams,' and will not interfere with each other in their respective fields of operation. This of course means that a considerably less quantity of designs will be purchased, and it has already been decided that each firm will reduce the number of designs for next season by one-fifth.



DESIGN FOR ECCLESIASTICAL GRILLE

BY GEO. C. HAITE

(Manufactured by the N. A. P. Window Co.)

It is impossible at this stage to say exactly to what extent this will affect the profession, but the following remarks by a well-known designer will no doubt be read with interest. My correspondent writes:— 'To all connected with this branch of decorative design it will be interesting to look at our position as affected by the monopoly which is being created. We may fairly assume at once that a much smaller number of designs will be required, because the keen